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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY
LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION
22 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0022

WALTER E. WHITCOMB
COMMISSIONER

NICHOLAS D. LIVESAY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PERMIT

FORESTRY OPERATIONS PERMIT FOP 940

The staff of the Maine Land Use Planning Commission, after reviewing the application and supporting documents submitted by Rangle Lakes Heritage Trust for Forestry Operations Permit FOP 940, finds the following facts:

1. Applicant: Rangle Lakes Heritage Trust
PO Box 249
Oquosuc ME

Landowner: Rangle Lakes Heritage Trust
PO Box 249
Oquosuc ME
2. Date of Completed Application: December 3, 2014
3. Location of Proposal: Rangle Plantation Township, Franklin County
Lot #5B on Plan 6
4. Zoning: (D-GN) Subdistrict
5. Waterbody: Rangle Lake
6. Approximate Time Period of Operations: January 1, 2015 – April, 2015

Proposal & Site Conditions

7. The applicant proposes to conduct timber harvesting activities on approximately 8 acres of its land in Rangle Plantation Township, with all 8 acres being located within a (D-GN) Subdistrict. The forest stand in the harvest area is a mixed hardwood stand with an average basal area of 120 square feet per acre, and approximately 80 years old. The species composition is approximately 20% Fir, 20% Yellow Birch, and 40% Spruce. Approximately 5% is dead or blowdown.
8. No new roads or water crossings are proposed. An existing skidder trail will be used to access the property. A driveway and staging area would be created and used for the timber harvest off of the

Southshore Road. The harvest would be conducted using chainsaws and cable skidders. No clearcuts would be created. The proposed harvest would be conducted under frozen conditions in the winter.

9. The soils within the harvest area are identified in the U.S. Dept of Agriculture's soil survey as loamy and well drained. The applicant describes the slopes within the harvest area to be approximately 3%.
10. The applicant states that it expects minimal scenic or aesthetic impact to the general public from the proposed harvest. Specifically, view of the harvest area will be shielded by a vegetated buffer of ?? hundred feet from Rangeley Lake and fifty feet from Southshore Road. The only visibility from a public road would be from the very northern side of the Southshore Road where the driveway enters. Views of the harvest area from this location would be limited due to the uncut areas around the harvest site. There are existing skidder trails within the property boundary from an older timber harvest, and these will be reused to haul timber to the landing.
11. The timber harvest activities would be conducted in conformance with the Commission's Standards for Timber Harvesting, Section 10.27, E of the Commission's Land Use Districts and Standards.

Review Comments

12. The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has reviewed the proposal and states that IF&W foresees no issues with the proposed timber harvest according to the details provided in FOP 940.
13. The Bureau of Parks and Lands was provided a copy of the application and states that The Bureau of Parks and Lands foresees no issues with the proposed timber harvest according to the details provided in FOP 940.
14. The Maine Forest Service has reviewed the proposal and states that the Maine Forest Service foresees no issues with the proposed timber harvest according to the details provided in FOP 940.

Review Criteria

15. Timber harvesting is an allowed use within a (D-GN) General Development Subdistrict upon issuance of a permit from the Commission under the provisions of Section 10.21,C,3,c(22) of the Commission's Land Use Districts and Standards.
16. Section 10.27,E of the Commission's Land Use Districts and Standards specifies standards for timber harvesting, including standards for timber harvesting in the vicinity of a great pond such as Rangeley Lake.
17. The facts are otherwise represented in Forestry Operations Permit Application FOP 940 and supporting documents.

Based upon the above Findings, the staff concludes that if carried out in compliance with the Conditions below, the proposal will meet the Criteria for Approval, Section 685-B(4) of the Commission's Statutes, 12 M.R.S.A.

Therefore, the staff approves the application of Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust for Forestry Operation Permit FOP 940 with the following conditions:

1. The Standard Conditions (ver. 9/84), a copy of which is attached.

2. If such trees exist within the operating area, at least four hardwoods greater than or equal to 12 inches in diameter shall be left standing per acre so as to provide future cavity trees for wildlife. Trees need not be evenly distributed, but may be grouped together.
3. All practicable steps shall be taken to prevent damage to advanced regeneration in order to minimize the adverse aesthetic impacts of the operation.
4. All operations shall be stopped where the continuation of such operations will cause or contribute to the occurrence of erosion or the sedimentation of surface waters, whether such occurrence is precipitated by exceptionally wet weather, the failure of water control measures, or other factors. Adequate steps must be taken immediately to stop any erosion or sedimentation of surface waters and to correct the situation which led to such occurrence. For the purposes of this action erosion is defined as evidence of rill or gully erosion.
5. The permittee shall comply with the Standards for Timber Harvesting, Sections 10.27,E of the Commission's Land Use Districts and Standards.
6. Skid roads shall be constructed using the following specifications for water control measures, including culverts, dips, water turnouts, and water bars:

<u>Slope</u>	<u>Spacing</u>
0 - 2%	500 - 300 feet
3 - 5%	250 - 180 feet
6 - 10%	167 - 140 feet
11 - 15%	136 - 127 feet
16 - 20%	125 - 120 feet
21%+	100 feet

Water control measures shall be spaced at shorter intervals than specified above if necessary in order to avoid accelerated erosion or sedimentation of surface waters.

7. Twitch trails or skid trails shall be located and designed to maximize use of the water control and erosion and sedimentation prevention measures described for skid roads in all cases where it may reasonably be anticipated that use of the trail will result in the creation of a skid trail. Slash and debris shall be placed in all twitch trails and skid trails to retard runoff and improve erosion control. In all cases where twitch trails or skid trails become skid roads (where the trail is used enough to expose significant areas of mineral soil) all practicable water control measures shall be immediately implemented including strict adherence to the provisions of the permittee's proposals which call for water bars and seeding.
8. Upon completion of use of skid roads, water bars shall be properly installed according to the following slope requirements:

<u>Skid Trail Slope</u>	<u>Spacing</u>
0 - 2%	250 feet
3 - 5%	200 - 135 feet
6 - 10%	100 - 80 feet
11 - 15%	80 - 60 feet
16 - 20%	60 - 45 feet


21%+

40 feet

9. Additional water bars shall be located approximately 50 feet above, and at the bottom of sections of such trails which exceed 25 percent in slope for a distance of 100 feet or more.
10. As soon as conditions allow after completion of the timber harvest, all exposed mineral soils on skid trails within 75 feet of any stream shall be seeded and mulched sufficiently to prevent soil erosion.
11. If water control measures beyond those specified herein prove to be necessary in order to reasonably avoid accelerated erosion or sedimentation of surface waters, such additional measures must be employed.
12. No heavy machinery shall be operated within 50 feet of the shore of Rangeley Lake. Any trees cut in that 50 foot strip shall be removed either by reaching in with the boom of a mechanical harvester or by winching out with a cable.
13. The period of operations shall be from the date of permit authorization to April 30, 2015.

This permit is approved only upon the above stated conditions and remains valid only if the permittee complies with all of these conditions. In addition, any person aggrieved by this decision of the staff may, within 30 days, request that the Commission review the decision.

DONE AND DATED AT WEST FARMINGTON MAINE THIS 10 DAY OF DECEMBER, 2014.

By: 
For Nicholas Livesay, Director